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HOME INTELLIGENCE.

PRESENTATION OF THE MEMORIAL OF THE LONDON CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.—Our Corresponding Secretary, at the request of the Committee, proceeded to Washington, the latter part of January, for the purpose of presenting to our Government the Address of the London Peace Convention to the Governments of the Civilized World, on the importance of arbitration as a substitute for war, recommending the insertion in every treaty of a clause which should bind the parties to settle all their subsequent difficulties, in the last resort, by reference to umpires mutually chosen. This document would have been forwarded sooner; but Mr. Beckwith waited for the return from Europe of Amasa Walker, Esq., one of his principal colleagues in the Convention, to whom, conjointly with himself, the Memorial had been entrusted. Mr. Walker was to have accompanied him; but his health, to the regret of them both, forbade.

Introduced to his Excellency by the Hon. A. K. PARRIS, formerly Governor of Maine, but now Comptroller of the Treasury, Mr. Beckwith had a pleasant interview with the President, who received the Memorial with expressions of pleasure, and spoke in gratifying terms on the general subject of peace. He reverted to his own official course as anxiously designed to secure the continuance of so rich a boon, and lamented the temporary misconception in this respect of his last Message by European presses. He acknowledged the utility of arbitration as a substitute for war, and commented on the importance of peace to our own country, and the wise adaptation, the strong tendency of a popular government, like ours, to insure peace, by cultivating its arts, and insisting on its policy. 'Let the people bear sway,' said he, 'and they will, if duly enlightened, demand peace as essential to their welfare. From the progress of free, popular government I hope much for the preservation of peace. An oppressed and famishing peasantry are the tools of war, and irresponsible despots have heretofore sported with their blood at pleasure; elevate those peasants into freemen with a voice in the government, and you make them from interest so many conservators of peace.'

Mr. B.'s health obliged him to leave Washington without attempting any thing more in public, but not before he ascertained to his own satisfaction, that the Hall of the Representatives, and the most important pulpits of the City would probably be opened to the advocacy of our cause. He regretted less, however, the necessity of returning so soon, because he found that a later period in the session of Congress would be a much more favorable time for a public effort there. He found, much to his surprise and gratification, some strong friends of peace in the Capital, especially a minister of the gospel, born, and educated, and always resident at the South, yet converted to strong views of peace by his study of the New Testament. Others, without embracing views equally strong, are inclined to favor the cause; and we are not without reasons for hoping, that the seeds of peace will yet germinate even amid the political miasma of the Capital, and bring forth a harvest of richest blessings to the nation. Among the people of Washington, as distinguished from its politicians, and the throng of transient visitors, are found not a few excellent men and devoted, exemplary Christians. Here is a soil for peace; and we wish we had the means of sowing thickly there this heavenly seed. Politicians we must reach mainly through the people; and, if we can interest the good people of Washington in this cause, we shall gain much.

LARGE CITIES.—From the report brought by our Secretary of his observations and inquiries in New-York and Philadelphia, the Committee thought best to send him to labor, if the way should be opened as he expected, in those cities most of the time till our anniversary. Mr. Ladd used to visit them about once a year; but, since his death, little has been done or attempted for the cause in either of those cities. We know too little of either place to anticipate the immediate result of his efforts; but sure we are that we *must* entrench our cause, sooner or later, and the sooner the better, in all such great centres of business, wealth and influence.

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